

MINUTES

Tennessee Public Charter Schools Commission 2020 Organizing Meeting

Tuesday, February 18 - Wednesday, February 19, 2020

Tennessee Board of Regents
1 Bridgestone Park
First Floor Meeting Room

<https://youtu.be/I4ZruMMhGBk>

Note: These minutes correspond to the video recording. Each item has a minute counter assigned to the subject location in the audio file.

Tuesday, February 18, 2020

Roll Call:

COMMISSIONER	Present	Absent
Tom Griscom	x	
Chris Richards	x	
Terence Patterson	x	
Derwin Sisnett	x	
Wendy Tucker	x	
Mary Pierce	x	
Dave Hanson	x	
Eddie Smith	x	
Alan Levine	x	

Welcome

(0:00:00-0:00:46)

Amity Schuyler, Deputy Commissioner
Tennessee Department of Education

Policy Overview and Election of Chair and Vice Chair

(0:00:46-1:01:20)

Nathan James, Director of Legislative and External Affairs
Tennessee State Board of Education

- This was the first discussion of the following items to come before the commission as a whole. The following items were presented by Nathan James, Director of Legislative and External Affairs, Tennessee State Board of Education Description of Members Policy, Description of Commission Meetings Policy
- Commission Action Items
 - Tennessee Public Charter Schools Commission Member Policy
 - Tennessee Public Charter Schools Commission Meeting Policy

- Elect Tennessee Public Charter Schools Commission Chair
- Elect Tennessee Public Charter Schools Commission Vice-Chair
- Agenda Approval

Tennessee Public Charter Schools Commission Member Policy

The vote to amend the Commission Meeting Policy was initiated by Nathan James. The motion to amend the commission’s policy to have the last sentence of Section 5.b.b. to... A commissioner may call for the roll on any issue. Commissioner Alan Levine made the motion to amend and Commissioner Eddie Smith seconded the motion.

Voting was as follows:

Commissioner	Yay	Nay	Abstain
Tom Griscom	x		
Chris Richards	x		
Terence Patterson	x		
Derwin Sisnett	x		
Wendy Tucker	x		
Mary Pierce	x		
Dave Hanson	x		
Eddie Smith	x		
Alan Levine	x		

Tennessee Public Charter Schools Commission Meeting Policy

The vote to amend the Commission Meeting Policy was initiated by Nathan James. The motion was made to amend the commission’s meeting policy to provide at least 30 minutes dedicated for receipt of public comments. Commissioner Wendy Tucker made the motion to amend and Commissioner Eddie Smith seconded the motion.

The voting was as follows:

Commissioner	Yay	Nay	Abstain
Tom Griscom	x		
Chris Richards	x		
Terence Patterson	x		
Derwin Sisnett	x		
Wendy Tucker	x		
Mary Pierce	x		
Dave Hanson	x		
Eddie Smith	x		
Alan Levine	x		

Tennessee Public Charter Schools Commission Chairman Election

The vote for Chairman of the Tennessee Public Charter Schools Commission was initiated by Nathan James. Commissioner Tom Griscom was nominated for Chairman by Commissioner Alan Levine and seconded by Commissioner Eddie Smith. After being nominated Mr. Tom Griscom was elected Chairman of Tennessee Public Charter Schools Commission.

Voting was as follows:

Commissioner	Yay	Nay	Abstain
Tom Griscom	x		
Chris Richards	x		
Terence Patterson	x		
Derwin Sisnett	x		
Wendy Tucker	x		
Mary Pierce	x		
Dave Hanson	x		
Eddie Smith	x		
Alan Levine	x		

Tennessee Public Charter Schools Commission Vice-Chairman Election

The vote for Vice-Chairman of the Tennessee Public Charter Schools Commission was initiated by Nathan James. Commissioner Mary Pierce was nominated by Commissioner Wendy Tucker and seconded by Commissioner Dave Hanson. Commissioner Chris Richards was nominated by Commissioner Alan Levine and seconded by Commissioner Derwin Sisnett. After being nominated Commissioner Chris Richards was elected Vice-Chairman of Tennessee Public Charter Schools Commission.

Voting for Commissioner Chris Richards as Vice-Chair was as follows:

Commissioner	Yay	Nay	Abstain
Tom Griscom	x		
Derwin Sisnett	x		
Terence Patterson	x		
Derwin Sisnett	x		
Wendy Tucker		x	
Mary Pierce		x	
Dave Hanson		x	
Eddie Smith	x		
Alan Levine	x		

Voting for Commissioner Mary Pierce as Vice-Chair was as follows:

Commissioner	Yay	Nay	Abstain
Tom Griscom		x	
Derwin Sisnett		x	
Terence Patterson		x	
Derwin Sisnett		x	
Wendy Tucker	x		
Mary Pierce	x		
Dave Hanson	x		
Eddie Smith		x	
Alan Levine		x	

Agenda approval

Presented by Chairman Tom Griscom. The roll call vote was unanimous.

Voting was as follows:

Commissioner	Yay	Nay	Abstain
Tom Griscom	x		
Chris Richards	x		
Terence Patterson	x		
Derwin Sisnett	x		
Wendy Tucker	x		
Mary Pierce	x		
Dave Hanson	x		
Eddie Smith	x		
Alan Levine	x		

Staffing

(1:01:20-2:07:38)

Presented by Amity Schuyler

- Commission Action Items
 - Job descriptions
 - Staff Direction

Motion: The Tennessee Department of Education staff to initiate an RFA to identify a search firm for Executive Director for the commission. The roll call was unanimous.

Voting was as follows:

Commissioner	Yay	Nay	Abstain
Tom Griscom	x		
Chris Richards	x		
Terence Patterson	x		
Derwin Sisnett	x		
Wendy Tucker	x		
Mary Pierce	x		
Dave Hanson	x		
Eddie Smith	x		
Alan Levine	x		

Motion: The Tennessee Department of Education staff to initiate search for General Counsel. The roll call was unanimous.

Voting was as follows:

Commissioner	Yay	Nay	Abstain
Tom Griscom	x		
Chris Richards	x		
Terence Patterson	x		
Derwin Sisnett	x		

Wendy Tucker	x		
Mary Pierce	x		
Dave Hanson	x		
Eddie Smith	x		
Alan Levine	x		

Motion: The Department of Education to prepare for office stand-up (location and set up). The roll call was unanimous.

Voting was as follows:

Commissioner	Yay	Nay	Abstain
Tom Griscom	x		
Chris Richards	x		
Terence Patterson	x		
Derwin Sisnett	x		
Wendy Tucker	x		
Mary Pierce	x		
Dave Hanson	x		
Eddie Smith	x		
Alan Levine	x		

Motion: The Tennessee Department of Education Issue and award a contract to initiate a contractor to assist with the Performance Framework. The roll call was unanimous.

Voting was as follow:

Commissioner	Yay	Nay	Abstain
Tom Griscom	x		
Chris Richards	x		
Terence Patterson	x		
Derwin Sisnett	x		
Wendy Tucker	x		
Mary Pierce	x		
Dave Hanson	x		
Eddie Smith	x		
Alan Levine	x		

Motion: The Department of Education and Tennessee State Board of Education to initiate securing training services for the Charter Commission. The roll call was unanimous.

Voting was as follows:

Commissioner	Yay	Nay	Abstain
Tom Griscom	x		
Chris Richards	x		
Terence Patterson	x		
Derwin Sisnett	x		
Wendy Tucker	x		

Mary Pierce	x		
Dave Hanson	x		
Eddie Smith	x		
Alan Levine	x		

Motion: Direct Tennessee Department of Education and State Board of Education staffs to issue contracts for commission staff to serve at the will of the commission, up to two contracts. The roll call was unanimous.

Voting was as follows:

Commissioner	Yay	Nay	Abstain
Tom Griscom	x		
Chris Richards	x		
Terence Patterson	x		
Derwin Sisnett	x		
Wendy Tucker	x		
Mary Pierce	x		
Dave Hanson	x		
Eddie Smith	x		
Alan Levine	x		

Break and Lunch

Rule and Policy Overview for Charter Authorizing (2:08:36-2:13:38)

Presented by Angie Sanders, General Counsel
Tennessee State Board of Education

Welcome and thank you to new Charter Schools Commissioners (2:13:38-2:17:20)

Dr. Penny Schwinn, Commissioner
Tennessee Department of Education

Rule and Policy Overview for Charter Authorizing (continued) (2:17:20-3:04:43)

Presented by Angie Sanders, General Counsel
Tennessee State Board of Education

Charter Performance of the State Board of Education LEA (3:04:43-3:42:41)

Presented by Tess Stovall, Director of Charter Schools
Tennessee State Board of Education

Charter Performance in Tennessee (3:42:52-4:19:30)

Presented by Dr. Kevin Schaaf, Director of Research and Analysis
Tennessee Department of Education

Welcome and thank you to new Charter Schools Commissioners

(4:19:58-4:25:53)

Governor Bill Lee

Charter performance in Tennessee (continued)

(4:25:53-4:47:57)

Presented by Dr. Kevin Schaaf, Director of Research and Analysis
Tennessee Department of Education

Adjourn

(4:49:24)

<https://youtu.be/86OlqS9ZIAA>

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Wednesday, February 19, 2020

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Roll Call: (00:01:45-00:02:12)

COMMISSIONER	Present	Absent
Tom Griscom	x	
Chris Richards	x	
Terence Patterson	x	
Derwin Sisnett	x	
Wendy Tucker	x	
Mary Pierce	x	
Dave Hanson	x	
Eddie Smith	x	
Alan Levine	x	

Call to Order (00:00:00-00:01:44)

Meeting called to order by Tom Griscom, Chairman

School Turnaround and the ASD (00:02:23-01:17:50)

Presented by Dr. Eve Carney, Chief Districts and Schools Officer
Tennessee Department of Education

The Tennessee Public Charter School Commission: Part 1 (01:18:04-3:15:25)

Presented by Steve Canavero, Senior Advisor
WestEd

The Tennessee Public Charter School Commission: Part 2

Presented by Steve Canavero, Senior Advisor
WestEd

Review of Open Meetings and Public Records Laws (03:15:50-3:53:26)

Presented by Angie Sanders, General Counsel
Tennessee State Board of Education

State Ethics Training (03:53:26-04:10:48)

Presented by Joanna Collins, Assistant General Counsel for Procurement
Tennessee Department of Education

Committee Appointments

(04:10:48-4:13:29)

Approved unanimously as follows:

- **Governance Committee**
 - Alan Levine, Chairman
 - Chris Richards

- **Business Operating Committee**
 - Mary Pierce, Chairman
 - Derwin Sisnett
 - Eddie Smith

- **Rules and Policy Committee**
 - Terence Patterson, Chairman
 - David Hanson
 - Wendy Tucker

Closing Remarks

(04:13:29-04:24:38)

Adjourn

(04:24:39)